

NODC on CD-ROM

Oceanographic Station Profile Time Series

The National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC) and the World Data Center A, Oceanography (WDC-A) have compiled from the NODC Oceanographic Station Data File a set of oceanographic data having repetitive samples along ocean sections or at fixed locations for long time periods. These oceanographic station time-series data, including temperature, salinity, density, and nutrients, are now available on one CD-ROM.

The total time-series data set contains: 27 North Pacific sections; 56 North Atlantic sections; sections along coastal California from the California Cooperative Fisheries Investigations (CALCOFI); 19 sections from the remainder of the World Oceans (including sections from the Mediterranean, North, Barents, and Tasman Seas as well as from the South Atlantic); and data from the 10 Ocean Weather Stations. Figure 1, for example, shows the locations of sections in the

western North Atlantic for which data are included in this data set.

This disc contains both data and data inventory files for each section or fixed station. For each cruise, the inventory contains: country, ship name, NODC Reference Number, beginning and end cruise dates, and number of stations. Each inventory file is sorted by NODC Reference Number. The data are stored as ASCII records in the NODC Oceanographic Station Data 2 (SD2) format. The file OSD.TXT is an ASCII text file that provides a complete record layout of the SD2 format and the code tables used with it.

This CD-ROM also holds a preliminary list of reference citations associated with the time-series data sets. These citations are cross-referenced to the CD-ROM time-series data by the NODC Reference Number.

Also included on this CD-ROM is a conversion program that enables the data to be used with the ATLAST software package. This program (ATLCNV) converts data from the NODC Oceanographic Station Data 2 format to a scaled down format that serves as input to ATLAST, a program for accessing and displaying hydrographic and tracer section data. ATLAST was developed by Dr. Peter Rhines of the University of Washington and is distributed by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). The ATLAST program itself is not contained on this CD-ROM, but can be obtained from JPL.

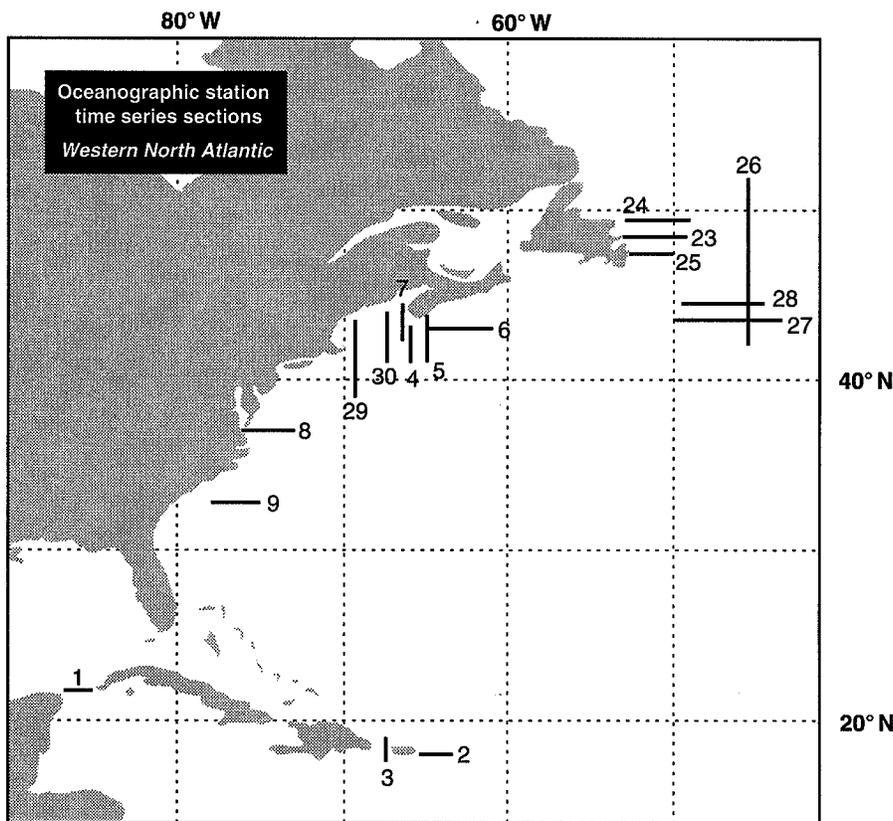


Figure 1. These 17 sections in the western North Atlantic Ocean are among the 56 North Atlantic sections for which time-series data are included on this CD-ROM.



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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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 National Oceanographic Data Center

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